

CONSUMER PROTECTION



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News

May 2004 Edition

Dear Wisconsin Children's Safety Advocates:

In April 2004, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission issued a total of **nine (9) recalls relating to products affecting children.**

Attached is a summary of the releases identifying the product, problem and what should be done with the recalled product.

We have found that not all of the recalls are picked up by the news media as they occur. This monthly summary will give you the opportunity to review all of the children's product safety recalls for the past two months.

If you are interested in a complete text of the recall, double click on the hyperlink at the end of the recall description. This will take you to the CPSC website and the actual recall notice. If you have other product safety questions you may call our toll free number at **(800) 422-7128.**

Following is a listing of the 9 "KIDS" recalls by title and identification number (when available):

- ❖ Pacific Cycle Inc. is recalling Mongoose mountain bicycles. #04-113
- ❖ Sauder Woodworking Co. is recalling TV/VCR carts. #04-115
- ❖ H&M is recalling water bottles. #04-116
- ❖ Nikko America Inc. is recalling radio-control toy trucks. #04-117
- ❖ Ethan Allen is recalling bunk beds.
- ❖ Mattel Inc. is recalling Batman Batmobile toys. #04-118
- ❖ Tek Nek Toys International, L.P. is recalling ride-on toy trucks for repair. #04-119
- ❖ Kids II Inc. is recalling vinyl mirror books. #04-123
- ❖ Ashley Furniture Industries, Inc. is recalling Ashley "Trails End", "Cottage Retreat", and "Stages" bunk beds for repair. #04-125

We hope you find this service of value and that it assists you to:

"KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE!"

KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE

Release Number: 04-113 Pacific Cycle Inc., of Madison, Wis. Is voluntarily recalling about 14,000 Mongoose aluminum 20-inch-wheel "D-XR AL" mountain bicycles. These are Mongoose aluminum 20-inch-wheel, D-XR AL, dual-suspension mountain bicycles. They have model number "R1590WMET" written on the service sticker, located on the bottom bracket tube near the pedals. The bicycles are silver and red colored. "Mongoose" and "DXR AL" are on the frame of the bicycles. Only Mongoose 20-inch D-XR bicycles with aluminum frames are included this recall. Bicycles with steel frames are not included. They were sold at bicycle stores and department stores nationwide from September 2003 through March 1, 2004 for about \$99. They were manufactured in China.

Problem: The rear shock absorber allows the aluminum, dual-suspension frame to flex severely, causing the frame to become unstable and break, posing the risk of injury to riders.

What to do: Consumers should stop using these bicycles immediately and call Pacific Cycle Inc. to receive a free replacement rear shock and instructions. For more information, call Pacific Cycle Inc. toll-free at (877) 564-2261 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. CT Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's Web site at www.mongoose.com



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04113.html>

Release Number: 04-115 Sauder Woodworking Co., of Archbold, Ohio, is voluntarily recalling about 592,000 TV/VCR carts. These TV/VCR carts were sold in a kit to be assembled by consumers. They are identical in design and construction, but not color. One model is a light-colored oak finish and the other model is a dark-colored cherry finish. The TV/VCR carts are about 29.5-inches wide, 18-inches deep and 27-inches high. The carts are equipped with a top shelf intended to support up

to a 27-inch television, a middle shelf intended to hold a VCR and a lower storage area intended to hold VCR tapes and equipment. The products were provided with shelves for holding VHS tapes that were to be installed on the inside of the two hinged doors enclosing the lower storage area. The recalled carts have four removable casters attached to each bottom corner of the cart. The TV/VCR carts included in the recall are models 2655 and 2755. The model number is not on the cart, but it is on the instruction booklet that came with the cart.

Department, discount and home electronic stores nationwide sold these TV/VCR carts from January 1993 through December 1999 for about \$100.

Problem: The carts can tip over and injure or kill children and adults when the cart and the television fall.

What to do: Consumers should stop using the TV/VCR carts immediately and do the following:

- * Remove the television and all the contents from these carts.
- * Turn the cart over and remove the four casters from the bottom of the cart. This will improve the stability of the carts.
- * Contact Sauder Woodworking Co. to receive a free repair kit that will further reduce the potential for the cart and television to tip. Do not use the cart until the repair kit is installed.
- * This cart is intended to hold a TV weighing 95 pounds or less. This includes most 24" and smaller TVs, and may include some 27" TVs.

For more information and to order the free repair kit, consumers should contact Sauder Woodworking Co. toll-free at (888) 800-4590 anytime, or visit the firm's web site at www.sauder.com



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04115.html>

Release Number: 04-116 H&M, of New York, N.Y. is voluntarily recalling about 6,300 water bottles. These are black plastic water bottles in green canvas sports holders. "H&M" is written on the bottle and the strap of the holder. The holder has a zip-up side, zipper pocket, a pocket made with netting and an insulated silver lining. They were sold at H&M clothing stores nationwide distributed the water bottles as a free premium with purchase of children's wear between February 2004 and March 5, 2004. The bottles were manufactured in China.

Problem: The pull-up, black plastic drinking spout can detach, posing a choking hazard to young children.

What to do: Return the water bottle to any H&M store for a free \$5 coupon towards another H&M purchase. For more information, call H&M toll-free at (877) 439- 6261 between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or visit their Web site at www.hm.com



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04116.html>

Release Number: 04-117 Nikko America Inc., of Plano, Texas, is voluntarily recalling about 287,000 radio-control toy trucks. The recalled toy trucks were manufactured from April 2003 through January 2004. The trucks are 1/10 scale models (approximately 18 inches in length) of the Chevy Avalanche (model 100021A), the Jeep Wrangler Rubicon (model 100022A and 100022B), the Hummer Wagon (model 100023A and 100023B) and the Ford F150 (model 100024A and 100024B). Model numbers can be found on the body of the truck, along with the vehicle make and model names. Major toy and discount department stores nationwide sold the toy trucks from July 2003 through February 2004 for about \$60.

Problem: A problem with the circuit board causes the toy truck to overheat, posing a fire and burn hazard.

What to do: Consumers should stop using the toy trucks and contact Nikko America for instructions on returning the product for a free

circuit board replacement. Contact Nikko America toll-free at (866) 232-6013 between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. CT Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's Web site at www.nikkoamerica.com/recall



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04117.html>

Release Information: Ethan Allen, of Danbury, Conn. is voluntarily recalling about 2,000 Bunk Beds. The top bunk guardrails on Ethan Allen Ryan and P.J. Bunk Beds have item numbers 35-5659-4, 36-5659-3 or 36-5659-4. Item numbers can be found on the inside of the bottom bunk headboard or footboard. The "j" hooks were incorporated into the guardrails of bunk beds as a locking/unlocking device. When unlocked and out of position, the guardrail can be removed for easy access to change bed linen. The beds were sold at Ethan Allen stores nationwide from June 2003 through December 2003 for between \$1,150 and \$1,350. They were manufactured in China.

Problem: A metal "j" hook on the guardrails can become dislodged, allowing the guardrail to slide or move out of position. This can allow the guardrail to detach from the bunk bed or allow the occupant to roll off the top bunk.

What to do: Consumers should stop using the top bunk if a "j" hook has become dislodged. Ethan Allen is directly notifying consumers who purchased these bunk beds about the recall and is providing free repair kits. Guardrails will be shipped to consumers with these recalled bunk beds on or about May 20, 2004. For more information, contact Ethan Allen at (888) 339-9398 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. ET Monday through Friday. Consumers also can contact Ethan Allen on their web site at www.ethanallen.com or email the firm at bunkbedinfo@ethanalleninc.com.



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04546.html>

Release Number: 04-118 Mattel Inc., of El Segundo, Calif. is voluntarily recalling about 314,000 "BATMAN™ BATMOBILE™" toys. The recalled "BATMAN™ BATMOBILE™" toy car is a 20-inch blue and gray plastic vehicle with a detachable motorcycle. Model number B4944 is written on the bottom of the toy vehicle. They were sold at mass merchants and toy stores nationwide from June 2003 through February 2004 for about \$27. The toys were manufactured in China.

Problem: The rear tail wings of the Batmobile are made of rigid plastic and come to a point, which pose a potential puncture or laceration hazard to young children.

What to do: Parents should take these toys away from children immediately and contact the firm for information on receiving free replacement wings. Mattel is providing free repair kits containing two replacement wings without pointed ends that snap onto the toy vehicle. The repair can be done quickly and easily at home; instructions will be provided.

Consumers can call Mattel at (888) 271-9891 anytime or visit www.service.mattel.com to determine if their toy is among the recalled models and to order the free replacement wings if needed.



<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04118.html>

Release Number: 04-119 Tek Nek Toys International, L.P., of Grapevine, Texas, is voluntarily recalling about 70,000 ride-on toy trucks for repair. The ride-on toys were sold under five model names including Butterfly Girl, Fire Rescue, Mermaid, Police Car and Tonka

Construction Crew. The toys can be used as a ride-on or push walker toy, with a handle on the back of the seat rest. These toys were sold for children age 1 to 3 years old. On the dash of the ride-on toys are buttons which produce sounds when activated. The recalled Ride-on vehicles have a date code from 20021127 to 20030319. The date code is located in the battery compartment located on the top panel next to the steering wheel. Wal-Mart, Toys R Us, Kmart, Meijer and Shopko sold the ride-on toys nationwide from December 2002 through March 2004 for about \$30.

Problem: The screw and nut assembly attaching the steering wheel can come loose, posing a choking and aspiration hazard to young children.

What to do: Consumers should take these recalled ride-on toy vehicles away from young children immediately and contact Tek Nek Toys for free replacement parts. For more information, contact Tek Nek toys at (888) 661-0222 anytime or visit Tek Nek's website at

www.teknekttoys.com



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04119.html>

Release Number: 04-123 Kids II Inc., of Alpharetta, Ga. is voluntarily recalling about 225,000 vinyl mirror books. The recalled picture books are brightly colored, made of flexible vinyl, and contain a plastic mirror on one of the inside pages. The recalled books come in four models: "Baby's Fun Book," "Baby's Photo Album," "Picture This Vinyl Book," and "Carter's Imagination Picture Book." The name "Kids II" is printed on the back cover of each book, except for the "Imagination Picture Book" which has "Carter's" printed on the front and back covers. Books were sold at mass merchandise and juvenile specialty stores nationwide from

December 2001 through March 2004 for between \$4 and \$8. They were manufactured in China.

Problem: The mirror in the books can crack or break, posing a laceration hazard to young children.

What to do: Parents should take the product away from small children immediately and detach and mail the mirror page of the product to Kids II at 1015 Windward Ridge Parkway, Alpharetta, GA 30005 for a refund. Call Kids II toll-free at (877) 325-7056 between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or log on to www.kidsii.com



Model 439 - Picture This Vinyl Book



Model 5082 - Carter's Imagination Picture Book



Model 39154 - Baby's Fun Book



Model 39155 - Baby's Photo Album

- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04123.html>

Release Number: 04-125 Ashley Furniture Industries, Inc., of Arcadia, Wisc. Is voluntarily recalling 22,476 Ashley "Trails End," "Cottage Retreat," and "Stages" bunk beds for repair. These bunk bed models are recalled for repairs: B383-58T, B383-57T, B213-58, and B233-58. The B383 models are sold under the group name "Trails End." The B213 is sold under the group name "Cottage Retreat." The B233 is sold under the group name "Stages." The model numbers are on product stickers on each bunk bed. On the B383 model, the product sticker is on the inside of the lower rail on the top bunk end panel. On the B213 and B233 models, the product sticker is on the inside of the lower panel on the bottom bunk. The bunk beds being recalled for repair were sold at furniture stores nationwide. Model B383 was sold beginning in December 2000. Model B213 was sold beginning in May 2003. Model B233 was sold beginning in June 2003. All sales of the recalled bunk beds ended in February 2004. Model B383-57T sold for around \$299, model B383-58T sold for around \$699, and Models B213 and B233 sold for around \$599.

Problem: There are gaps between parts of the bunk bed that violate federal safety standards and can be entrapment or strangulation hazards to children. For model B383, the gap between the end rails on the upper bunk is too large. For models B213 and B233, the gap between the guardrails of the upper bunk can be widened with pressure, presenting an entrapment hazard. Federal standards for bunk beds are designed to protect children against entrapment and strangulation.

What to do: Stop using the recalled bunk beds and get a free repair kit from the retailer to cover and close up the entrapment gaps. Consumers can install the repair kit easily at home. To get a free repair kit, contact the dealer who sold the bunk bed. Although repair kits are not available on-line, consumers can call Ashley Furniture Industries at (800) 999-2936 between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. (CT) Monday through Friday and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (CT) on Saturday. Additional information is available on Ashley's web site at www.ashleyfurniture.com



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04125.html>

If you would like to sign up for the Keep Your Kids Safe newsletter, please visit our webpage at <http://datcp.state.wi.us> or contact Michelle Reinen at (608) 224-4988 or michelle.reinen@datcp.state.wi.us. Please be sure to provide your name, telephone number and e-mail address.

If you have any questions or want to file a complaint regarding an unsafe product, contact:

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Regulation & Safety Section
1-800-422-7128 (toll free in Wisconsin)
or (608) 224-4988